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INCOMING TELEGRAM Department of State

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C O N F I D E N T I A L ATHENS 4762

1. FOLLOWING OBSERVATIONS CAS STAFF PERSONNEL IN DOWNTOWN AREA 1200 HOURS LOCAL.

A. NUMBER OF TANKS DEPLOYED IN OMONIA SQUARE AREA (DOWNTOWN COMMERCIAL DISTRICT) AND ALL TRAFFIC BLOCKED.
B. HERODOTUS ATTIKUS STREET BLOCKED IMMEDIATELY ABOVE PALACE BUT NO OBSTACLES PA FRONT OF DOWNTOWN PALACE ITSELF.
C. NO ACTIVITY AROUND SOVIET EMBASSY.

PAGE 2 RUGMAT 4762A C O N F I D E N T I A L
D. FIVE TANKS DEPLOYED AROUND PENTAGON (GREEK MILITARY HEADQUARTERS), BUT NO SIGNIFICANT OUTWARD SIGNS OF ACTIVITY.
E. HELICOPTERS INTERMITTENTLY PATROLING NORTHERN AREAS OF CITY AND SUBURBS.
F. CONSIDERABLE ACTIVITY AROUND NAVAL HQS NEAR KLATHMONOS SQUARE, WHERE NUMBER OF SAILORS ARRIVE BY TRUCK AND DISAPPEAR INTO BUILDING.
G. EDA OFFICES AND ADJACENT AREA BEING SURROUNDED BY POLICE WHO APPARENTLY ARE COOPTED BUT ARE ACTING UNDER DIRECTION OF ARMY
H. TELEGRAPH OFFICES CLOSED.
I. NO DEPARTING FLIGHTS, BUT PLANES EN ROUTE TO ATHENS BEING ALLOWED TO LAND.
J. IN RESIDENTIAL AREA PEOPLE QUEUING UP FOR FOOD, BUT NO DISTURBANCES SO FAR.
K. SEVERAL NEWSPAPER OFFICES OPEN, BUT NO INDICATION AFTERNOON EDITIONS BEING RUN OFF.
L. AT APPROXIMATELY 1130 HOURS KING KONSTANTINOS, ACCOMPANIED BY CHIEF OF THE GREEK ARMY GENERAL STAFF (GAGS) LIEUTENANT GENERAL GRIGORIOS SPANDIDAKIS, BRIGADIER GENERAL STYLIANOS PATAKOS AND A GROUP OF APPROXIMATELY 12 MILITARY OFFICERS

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Athens 4762
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PAGE 3 RUCMAT 4762A C O N F I D E N T I A L
OF THE RANK OF COLONEL AND ABOVE, VISITED THE HOME OF FORMER POLITICAL ADVISOR TO THE KING DIMITRIOS BITSIOS. A CROWD OF APPROXIMATELY 500 PERSONS GATHERED AND WHEN THE KING, ACCOMPANIED BY THE OTHER INDIVIDUALS EXCEPT FOR BITSIOS WHO REMAINED AT HOME, DEPARTED, THE CROWD BROKE OUT IN SPONTANEOUS CLAPPING AND CHEERING. ACCORDING TO VARIOUS INDIVIDUALS IN THE CROWD, THE MEETING LASTED APPROXIMATELY 15 MINUTES, AND UPON ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE THE KING APPEARED TO BE EXTREMELY NERVOUS.
M. POLICE ARE PEACEFULLY BREAKING UP SMALL GROUPS, APPARENTLY CURIOSITY SEEKERS, CONGREGATING IN DOWNTOWN AREA.
N. RADIO ANNOUNCES ANYONE ON STREET AFTER DARK WILL BE SHOT IMMEDIATELY.

[redacted]

3. AMONG ARREST NON-GOVERNMENT PERSONNEL SO FAR (IN ADDITION PAPANDREOUS) FOLLOWING REPORTED: IOANNIS ALEVRAS (PRO-ANDREAS EK DEPUTY), CHIEF OF POLICE EMMANOUIL ARCHONDOULAKIS; EDA DEPUTIES ILIAS ILIOU, LEONIDAS KYRKOS; ELEFTHERIA PUBLISHER PANOS KOKKAS AND EDITOR GEORGE ANDROULIKAKIS; ETHNOS CO-PUBLISHER KONSTANTINOS NIKOLOPOULOS; TA NEA COLUMNIST DIMITRIOS PSATHAS; MAJOR MIHAIL ARNAOUTIS, PERSONAL AIDE OF KING; FDK LEADER KONSTANTINOS MITSOTAKIS; KATHIMERINI PUBLISHER ELENI VLACHOU.

4. OFFICES OF EDA, EDA YOUTH (DNL) AND IRINI (PEACE COMMITTEE) WERE RANSACKED AND MATERIAL TAKEN TO ATHENS GENERAL SECURITY.

5. KNOWLEDGE OF COUP LIMITED TO VERY FEW PERSONS AND EVERYONE, INCLUDING INDIVIDUALS CLOSE TO KING AND CHIEFS OF SECURITY

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SERVICES AND CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE SERVICE (KYP) APPARENTLY

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TAKEN. UNAWARE.

6. STILL NO ANNOUNCEMENT AS OF THREE PM LOCAL OF FORMATION GOVERNMENT (ATHENS 4741).
GP-3. TALBOT
BT

NOTE: Advance copy to S/S-O at 9:45 a.m., April 21.
Passed White House, USIA, CIA, DOD, NSA at 9:45 a.m., April 21.

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